

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~ as claimed in claim ~~13~~, wherein the nonmetallic layer ~~(3)~~ mainly comprises a material selected from the group of transparent plastic, silicon, oxides of silicon, nitrides of silicon and carbides of silicon.

3. (Currently Amended) An optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~ as ~~claimed in claims 1 or 2~~ for recording by means of a focused radiation beam having a wavelength λ and entering through an entrance face of the medium during recording, said optical data storage medium comprising:

..... a substrate including a guide groove, having a depth g , on a side of the substrate opposite to the entrance face; and

..... a recording stack of layers on the substrate at the side of the guide groove, said recording stack including:

..... a write-once recording layer adjacent the substrate, said write-once recording layer being a material having a complex refractive index $\tilde{n}_R = n_R - i \cdot k_R$ at the wavelength λ , and having a thickness d_{gc} in the groove portion and a thickness d_{gl} in the portion between grooves; and

15 | a non-metallic layer adjacent the write-once recording
layer, said non-metallic layer being a substantially transparent
material.
characterized in that the groove depth g is in the range $(\lambda/655)*20$
nm < g < $(\lambda/655)*140$ nm with λ expressed in nm,
20 | and wherein the wavelength λ is approximately 655 nm.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~
as claimed in claim 3, wherein $g < 125$ nm.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~
as claimed in ~~claims 3 or 4~~ claim 3, wherein $g > 50$ nm.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3 --- 5~~ claim 3, wherein the
recording layer ~~(2)~~ has a thickness d_{RG} and $145 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 245$
nm and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises SiO_2 and has a
thickness d_T in the range $5 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 120 \text{ nm}$.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An The~~ optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3 --- 5~~ claim 3, wherein the
recording layer has a thickness d_{RG} and $132 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 220 \text{ nm}$
and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises SiC and has a thickness
5 | d_T in the range $5 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 60 \text{ nm}$.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The optical data storage medium ~~(10)~~
as claimed in ~~any one of claims 3-5~~claim 3, wherein the
recording layer has a thickness d_{RG} and $154 \text{ nm} \leq d_{RG} * n_R < 264 \text{ nm}$,
and the non-metallic layer mainly comprises amorphous Si and has a
5 thickness d_T in the range $1 \text{ nm} \leq d_T \leq 20 \text{ nm}$.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The optical data storage medium ~~(20)~~
as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 3, wherein ~~at~~
~~least one further recording stack (2', 3')~~ is present adjacent said
optical data storage medium further comprises:

5 a further substrate ~~(4)~~adjacent said recording stack of
layers, said further substrate including a guide groove with a
depth g' in the same range as g , the guide groove being present at
the side of the further substrate ~~(4)~~opposite to the an entrance
face ~~(8)~~adjacent to said recording stack of layers; and

10 ~~the~~a further recording stack (2', 3') including:
—a further ~~write-write~~once recording layer ~~(2')~~of a
material having a complex refractive index $\tilde{n}'_R = n'_R - i*k'_R$ at the
wavelength λ and having a thickness d'_{RG} in the groove portion and
a thickness d'_{RL} in the portion between grooves, said further
15 write-once recording layer being present adjacent the substrate;
and

—a further non-metallic layer ~~(3')~~of a substantially
transparent material, ~~being present adjacent the further write-once~~
recording layer ~~(2')~~.

10. (Cancelled).